Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A message distribution center interposed between a source of a short message and a wireless network including an intended recipient of said short message, said message distribution center comprising:

an SMTP protocol communication channel to receive said short message from said source of said short message;

a plurality of subscriber queues outside of a wireless carrier's network each corresponding to a different subscriber in said wireless network, said short message being placed in at least one of said plurality of subscriber queues before delivery to said wireless carrier's network; and

a communication channel to communicate said short message to said wireless carrier's network.

2. (currently amended) The message distribution center according to claim 1, wherein:

said communication channel with said wireless carrier's network is an RMI protocol communication channel.

3. (currently amended) The message distribution center according to claim 1, wherein:

said communication channel with said wireless carrier's network is an SMPP protocol communication channel.

4. (original) The message distribution center according to claim 1, wherein:

each of said plurality of subscriber queues operates in a first in-first out fashion.

5. (original) The message distribution center according to claim 1, further comprising:

a predetermined maximum number of short messages in each of said plurality of subscriber queues.

6. (currently amended) The message distribution center according to claim 1, wherein:

said wireless carrier's network is a wireless intelligent network (WIN).

7-16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A method of message distribution between a source of a short message and a wireless network including an intended recipient of said short message, said method of message distribution comprising:

receiving said short message from said source of said short message utilizing an SMTP protocol communication channel;

placing said short message in at least one of a plurality of subscriber queues outside of a wireless carrier's network before delivery to said wireless carrier's network, said plurality of subscriber queues each corresponding to a different subscriber in said wireless carrier's network; and

communicating said short message to said wireless carrier's network utilizing a communication channel.

18. (currently amended) The method of message distribution according to claim 17, wherein:

said communication channel with said wireless carrier's network is an RMI protocol communication channel.

19. (currently amended) The method of message distribution according to claim 17, wherein:

said communication channel with said wireless carrier's network is an SMPP protocol communication channel.

20. (previously presented) The method of message distribution according to claim 17, wherein:

each of said plurality of subscriber queues operates in a first in-first out fashion.

21. (previously presented) The method of message distribution according to claim 17, further comprising:

placing a predetermined maximum number of short messages in each of said plurality of subscriber queues.

22. (currently amended) The method of message distribution according to claim 17, wherein:

said wireless carrier's network is a wireless intelligent network (WIN).

23. (currently amended) An apparatus for message distribution between a source of a short message and a wireless network including an intended recipient of said short message, said apparatus for message distribution comprising:

means for receiving said short message from said source of said short message utilizing an SMTP protocol communication channel;

means for placing said short message in at least one of a plurality of subscriber queues outside of a wireless carrier's network before delivery to said wireless carrier's network, said plurality of subscriber queues each corresponding to a different subscriber in said wireless carrier's network; and

means for communicating said short message to said wireless carrier's network utilizing a communication channel.

24. (currently amended) The apparatus for message distribution according to claim 23, wherein:

said communication channel with said wireless carrier's network is an RMI protocol communication channel.

25. (currently amended) The apparatus for message distribution according to claim 23, wherein:

said communication channel with said wireless carrier's network is an SMPP protocol communication channel.

26. (previously presented) The apparatus for message distribution according to claim 23, wherein:

each of said plurality of subscriber queues operates in a first in-first out fashion.

27. (previously presented) The apparatus for message distribution according to claim 23, further comprising:

placing a predetermined maximum number of short messages in each of said plurality of subscriber queues.

28. (currently amended) The apparatus for message distribution according to claim 23, wherein:

said wireless carrier's network is a wireless intelligent network (WIN).